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ER 86-2111x
OCA 86-1623

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

20 MAY 1986

OCA 86-1623

The Honorable Lee H. Hamilton, Chairman
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter received 12 May regarding equal treatment for both House and Senate. We have long had a policy of treating the two Committees in the same fashion, and as far as I can determine, this policy has been successfully implemented with few exceptions. Accordingly, I agree with you that like information should be made available to the two Committees at approximately the same time.

Your letter questions whether briefings on the nuclear accident in the Soviet Union were not provided in greater detail and more expeditiously to the Senate than to the House Intelligence Committee. Actually, staff directors of both Committees were called on Tuesday afternoon, 29 April, and briefing arrangements were made with your Committee for 9:00 a.m. on 30 April. The Senate Committee did not request a briefing and was not briefed. However, Senate Majority Leader Dole and Minority Leader Byrd asked for a briefing of interested Senators, and this was presented at 7:00 p.m. on 29 April. These arrangements appear to me to meet the objective of making the briefings available to the House and Senate in an equitable fashion.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence



B-406-IR

Distribution:

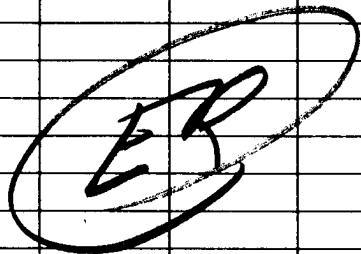
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D/OCA:DDG:mdo (14 May 1986)

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Remarks: To 13: Here's one that best have DCI Response.

Executive Secretary
12 May 86
Date

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ON INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Executive Registry

86- 2111x

May 8, 1986

Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

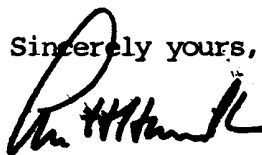
Some Members have recently formed the impression that the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence receives intelligence information on topics of current interest in less detail and often after such topics are briefed to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

I understand that information provided to one committee may differ from that provided to the other because of the nature and timing of requests made by individual committees or other variables but I believe that the Agency should make every effort to provide the same level of detail to both intelligence oversight committees and in the same timeframe. The impression that this is not always the case was reinforced by recent statements made by Senators concerning the nuclear accident in the Soviet Union.

I suggest that your staff make every effort, working with the staff of the two intelligence committees, to schedule briefings on subjects of interest to both committees as close together and with the same detail as is possible. I appreciate this is sometimes difficult to do but it would greatly assist both committees equally in fulfilling their oversight responsibilities. My aim is to ensure that both committees can, to the extent possible, have available to them the same information in the same timeframe.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Lee H. Hamilton
Chairman

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